

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Union Carbide Corp - Tech Center

(A Subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company)

**3200-3300 Kanawha Turnpike
South Charleston, WV 25303
Congressional District 2
EPA ID #: WVD060682291
Last Update 6/16/05**

Current Progress at the Site

Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) entered into a Facility Lead agreement with EPA on October 26, 1999 for conducting corrective action at the Technical Center. UCC has reviewed existing data on the site's Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and has prioritized them based on potential risk. A RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) Workplan for the "high priority" SWMUs was approved by EPA in September 2000 and implementation began in December 2000. An RFI Report was submitted to EPA and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) in June 2001. Additional groundwater monitoring wells were installed downgradient of the site property boundary in December 2001, May 2002 and June 2003. A conceptual groundwater flow model was developed to assist in evaluating offsite contamination from Ward Hollow.

An RFI Workplan for the "low priority" SWMUs was approved in May 2004. This Workplan included a groundwater investigation addendum for installing additional groundwater monitoring wells to determine the extent of contaminated groundwater downgradient of the property boundary. The additional wells were installed in June 2004 and found not to contain the contaminants attributable to the UCC groundwater plume.

The fieldwork for the "low priority" SWMUs RFI was completed in July 2004. An RFI Report for the "low priority" SWMUs was submitted to EPA and WVDEP in February 2005.

During the RFI process Interim Measures were implemented at the Ward B Landfill, which was an area which data indicated may be a potential risk to human health and the environment. With concurrence from EPA, UCC installed an additional cover and drainage controls for the Ward B Landfill in October 2002. This was the final action necessary at the facility to meet the Human Exposure Environmental Indicator on May 22, 2003.

UCC will now focus on meeting EPA's Groundwater Environmental Indicators (EI), which is projected to be met by August 2005, through temporal monitoring of onsite and downgradient wells to demonstrate plume stability.

Site Description

The UCC Technical Center is located on a 681-acre tract in South Charleston, West Virginia of which approximately 125 acres are developed. The Technical Center provides primarily research and development and process engineering functions for the Corporation. Facilities include laboratories, pilot plants, shops, a recreation area and miscellaneous offices. Recently, the facility has become a technology park that is utilized by other businesses.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 with assistance from the State.

Contaminants

Based on available information, which includes a preliminary risk assessment, there are no imminent threats to human health or the environment from UCC's Technical Center. The main contaminant known to be present in the groundwater is bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether.

Community Interaction

A Community Relations Plan has been prepared and approved by EPA. Communication to the public relies heavily on interaction with the Technical Center Community Advisory Panel (CAP). The CAP consists of interested members of the nearby community and meets on a regular basis. On a periodic basis, health, safety and environmental information is also shared with area residents through the Technical Center's "Around Dow" publication.

During 2001, in addition to the normal communications, EPA presented the philosophy behind the facility lead concept to the CAP. Also, a UCC representative conducted a "Geology/Hydrogeology" course to the CAP. This class explained the basic concepts of geology and hydrogeology and how those relate to the remediation of the Technical Center.

Institutional Controls

No Institutional Controls Implemented.

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

Facility Contacts

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